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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Technology Center 2600

In re application of

Docket No: Q61047

Masaru HOSHINO

Appln. No.: 09/676,490

Group Art Unit: 2621

Confirmation No.: 4937

Examiner: Patrick L. Edwards

Filed: October 02, 2000

For: AN IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, AN IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, AND A COMPUTER READABLE MEDIUM HAVING RECORDED THEREON A PROCESSING PROGRAM FOR PERMITTING A COMPUTER TO PERFORM IMAGE PROCESSING ROUTINES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith. Also enclosed is an English translation of a Japanese Office Action relating thereto.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement Under 37 C.F.R § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of

11/24/2003 MPEKONEN 00000068 09676490

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

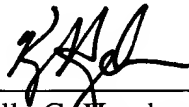
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/676,490

Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is attached.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: November 20, 2003